



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 15th July 2024**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

Present: Cllr Ed Sheppard (Chairman), Cllr Andrew Sherrey (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Margaret Sherrey, Cllr David Mudie, Cllr Sara ffoulkes, Cllr Drew Beaumont.

In attendance: County and District Council Cllr Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk), 2 members of the public.

5640 Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Bates, District Cllr Simon Nock

5641 Declarations of interest

None.

5642 Dispensations

There were none.

Open session

The meeting was adjourned for the open session and the following reports/updates were noted.

Public comments/questions:

The following issues were raised by the public:

- Uneven footpath on NT land behind Adams Hill. The NT are aware of this but the Chairman would follow this up with the NT Clent Hills Manager.

County and District Councillor Updates

Councillor Karen May reported on the following from WCC and BDC

- WCC budget setting
- Walton Pool gully clearing
- 5 fly tipping district “hot spots” now have enforcement cameras with more to be deployed to tackle this issue.

Councillor Simon Nock provided a written update from BDC which was circulated.

5643 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th June 2024 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5644 Correspondence

The following correspondence was considered:

- (a) From the Admin of the Clent Residents Facebook page in relation to the “general state” of the village (vegetation, trees, hedges, verges etc). The Clerk had responded to the correspondent advising of the correct and most effective ways of reporting issues and problems.
- (b) From a resident about the trim trail equipment becoming unusable – see 5647 below.
- (c) From a filming company asking to use the playground area for filming in the autumn. The Clerk would ask for more information about the nature of the film and more detail about the dates and times required.

5645 Finance

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment of the following for June 2024:

(i) Clerk salary & expenses	£782.26
(ii) HMRC PAYE	£20.08
(iii) Clent Cricket Club (May & June)	£800.00

- (b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 30/06/24 prepared by the Clerk.
- (c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the June 2024 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £95,468.12 as at 30/06/2024.

5646 General maintenance & highway matters

- (a) WMP Phone box on Adams Hill – Cllr May had forwarded a document to be completed by the Clerk releasing WMP of all responsibility for the asset and it would then revert to CPC.
- (b) Odnall Lane pavement, hedges and “dangerous” wall. NT are still monitoring the wall but it continues to deteriorate. The Lengthsman had carried out minor works to widen the pavement as far as is possible.
- (c) Nimmings Car Park and highway improvements to discourage late night ASB. The NT wish to install some lockable bollards to stop cars from accessing the entrance to the car park after closing time, but WCC have so far vetoed this. A site meeting would be arranged with Cllr May, the Chairman and the new Highways Liaison Engineer to discuss this later in the year.
- (d) Replacement street light columns. There was one column that may have been missed by WCC and that was at the Bromsgrove Road end of Church Avenue. Cllr Sheppard would advise the WCC street lighting officer about this.

5647 Field Maintenance & Play Areas

- (a) Trim Trail removal/replacement. The Chairman and Cllr Mudie met on site to look at each piece of equipment. Most of the equipment has around 2/3 years of use left and has now been trimmed around so that it is usable. There are 2 pieces which have rotten posts and these will be removed as soon as possible. The Chairman and Cllr Mudie would carry out this work. Cllr May would also speak with BDC officers about extending the lease so that the PC can consider investing in new equipment on the trim trail field in the future.
- (b) Weeds around trees on playing fields – the tree maintenance contractor will provide a quotation for the work which would not be carried out until the autumn.

(c) Pond footpath levelling/surfacing – the Chairman would ask the tree contractor to quote for this work as the general contractor had not responded.

(d) Slide – the concrete pad at the bottom of the slide needs to be reduced and a new layer of rubber chippings needs to be added. Cllr Sheppard would order the chippings and carry out this work.

5648 Planning

(a) New applications – no new applications.

(b) Appeals – Shady Rock Cottage appeal has been upheld and permission is now granted.

5649 Youth Council

No specific updates ahead of the first meeting at 6.30pm on the 16th September. Cllrs ffoulkes and M Sherrey would draw up an Agenda.

5650 Parish Magazine

The Clerk would write a general update including the successful fete at the school which had been attended by Cllrs Andrew and Margaret Sherrey representing the PC.

5651 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

A reminder that there was no August meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the 16th September 2024 at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____ **Date:** _____